

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-15 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 L-03 H-03 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 AGR-20

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8524

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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USADB

BANGKOK FOR RED

FOR NAC AGENCIES

E.O. 11652: DECLAS DEC 31, 1973

TAGS: EAID, EFIN

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ADB TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT TO ECAFE FOR
REGIONAL COMMODITY BALANCE SHEETS PROJECT

SUMMARY: ADB MANAGEMENT PROPOSES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT
OF UP TO \$50,000 TO ECAFE TO ASSIST IN FINANCING PROJECT ON
COMPILATION OF COMMODITY BALANCE SHEETS SIX ECAFE COUNTRIES.
PROPOSAL ALSO PROVIDES FOR BANK REPRESENTATION ON CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE OF PROJECT. USADB PLANS TO SUPPORT PROPOSAL. END
SUMMARY.

1. ADB DOC. R 80-73 WITH ATTACHMENTS DESCRIBING PROPOSED
TA GRANT POUCHES ADDRESSEES OCTOBER 2. BOARD CONSIDERATION
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SCHEDULED OCTOBER 23.

2. ADB MANAGEMENT PROPOSES TA GRANT FINANCE PROJECT PURPOSE FACILITATE IN SIX PILOT COUNTRIES COMPILATION OF RELIABLE STATISTICAL BASE FOR PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION AND TRADE BALANCES SELECTED MAJOR COMMODITIES. THESE DATA CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL TO PROPER APPRAISAL OF ADB AND OTHER DONOR PROJECTS; WOULD PROVIDE MORE RELIABLE ESTIMATES OF INTERMEDIATE CONSUMPTION, FINAL CONSUMPTION AND GROSS FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION. ALSO, ANTICIPATED PUBLICATION OF STANDARDIZED TECHNICAL MANUALS AND THEIR ULTIMATE ADOPTION THROUGHOUT REGION EXPECTED TO IMPROVE INTERSECTORAL AND INTRA-COUNTRY COMPARISONS; INCREASE VALIDITY OF NATIONAL INCOME ACCOUNTING EQUATIONS USED FOR CALCULATION BALANCE OF PAYMENTS; BALANCE OF TRADE, DEBT SERVICING BURDEN AND OTHER KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS.

3. ATTRACTIVE FEATURE THIS PROJECT IS COLLABORATION INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPING ECONOMIES (IDE) TOKYO; FAO, WHO WILL SELECT AND COMPILE DATA ON AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES; ECAFE TO CHOOSE MINING AND MANUFACTURED GOODS; JOINT PARTICIPATION ADB AND ABOVE AGENCIES WITH SIX PILOT COUNTRIES (INDONESIA, KOREA, MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, THAILAND) IN DECISIONS ABOUT DESIGN OF COMMODITY BALANCE SHEETS.

4. CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE COMPRISED OF ECAFE, ADB, FAO, AND IDE WILL COORDINATE METHODOLOGY, PROJECT DESIGN, PUBLICATION OF DATA AND TECH. MANUALS, AND EVALUATION OF RESULTS. PROJECT EXPECTED TO TERMINATE DECEMBER 1976 (3 1/3 YEAR DURATION).

5. USADB CONCURS WITH MANAGEMENT'S VIEW THAT SOUND STATISTICAL INFORMATION ABOUT DEVELOPING MEMBER COUNTRIES IS IMPERATIVE IF BANK IS TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY IN RENDERING BOTH TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. USADB PLANS TO SUPPORT PROPOSAL.

6. FYI. FOR PARA 7.2 OF BANK'S GUIDELINES FOR TA, TA PROJECTS UP TO \$50,000 MAY BE APPROVED BY PRESIDENT WITHOUT SEEKING BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVAL. HOWEVER, LAST TIME PRESIDENT APPROVED TA GRANT TO AN ORGANIZATION RATHER THAN A COUNTRY (\$30,000 TO ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION APPROVED AUG. 24, 1973), ACTION QUESTIONED BY SOME BOARD MEMBERS. MANAGEMENT HAS THEREFORE DECIDED TO REQUEST PRIOR BOARD APPROVAL THIS PROPOSAL. END FYI. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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